AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims replaces all prior listings and versions of the claims in this application.

1. (Withdrawn) A concatemerized double-stranded oligonucleotide molecule comprising at least two copies of a nucleotide sequence comprising a sequence or sequences that act as transcription factor decoys.

2. (Currently amended) A transcription factor decoy comprising a concatemerized double-stranded oligonucleotide molecule, wherein the concatemerized double-stranded oligonucleotide molecule is selective for a single target transcription factor and comprises at least 10 ~~end-to-end~~ repeated copies of a domain, wherein each of said domains comprises a nucleotide sequence that acts as a transcription factor decoy for ~~a~~ the transcription factor, ~~and~~ wherein each of said domains comprises from about 10 to about 40 nucleotide base pairs, and wherein each of said domains is separated by an identical engineered spacer sequence comprising 10 or more non-naturally occurring nucleic acids.

3. (Withdrawn) A combinatorial transcription factor decoy comprising a concatemerized double-stranded oligonucleotide molecule comprising at least two end-to-end nucleotide sequences comprising two different sequences that act as transcription factor decoys for two or more transcription factors.

4. (Previously presented) The transcription factor decoy of claim 2, further comprising at least one tissue-specific promoter.

5. (Previously presented) The transcription factor decoy of claim 2, wherein the transcription factor decoy is capable of blocking signaling and gene expression associated with pathogenesis.

6. (Previously presented) The transcription factor decoy of claim 2, wherein the domain is NF-kB-specific.

7. (Previously presented) The transcription factor decoy of claim 2, wherein the transcription factor is selected from NF-kB, AP-1, ATF2, ATF3, and SP1.

8. (Withdrawn) A method of delivering transcription factor decoys *in vitro* or *in vivo*, in isolated cells or intact animals, comprising contacting a cell with a concatemerized double-

stranded oligonucleotide molecule comprising at least two end-to-end repeated copies of a nucleotide sequence comprising a sequence or sequences that act as transcription factor decoys.

9. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 8 wherein the transcription factor decoys block transcription factors implicated in a disease, response to surgery and/or trauma, developmental defects, aging, or toxic exposure.

10. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 8 wherein the method is a treatment for one or more of the diseases selected from the group consisting of myocardial ischemia/reperfusion and myocardial infarction, heart failure and hypertrophy, cardioprotection, stroke, neuroprotection, sepsis, arthritis, asthma, heritable inflammatory disorders, cancer, heritable immune dysfunctions, inflammatory processes, whether caused by disease or injury or infection, and oxidative stress to any organ whether caused by disease, surgery or injury.

11. (Withdrawn) A method for treatment of NF-κB-associated diseases which comprises administering to an animal an effective amount of a polynucleotide NF-κB chromosomal binding site decoy which antagonizes NF-κB-mediated transcription of a gene located downstream of a NF-κB binding site, wherein the polynucleotide comprises one or more copies of the oligonucleotide decoy.

12. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 11 wherein the NF-κB-associated disease is selected from the group consisting of an ischemic disease, an inflammatory disease, and an autoimmune disease.

13. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 11 wherein the NF-κB-associated disease is an ischemic disease.

14. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 11 wherein the NF-κB-associated disease is selected from the group consisting of a reperfusion disorder in ischemic disease, aggravation of a prognosis of an organ transplantation, aggravation of a prognosis of an organ surgery, and post-PTCA restenosis.

15. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 11 wherein the NF-κB-associated disease is selected from the group consisting of a reperfusion disorder in ischemic heart disease, aggravation of a prognosis of a heart transplantation, aggravation of a prognosis of a heart surgery, and post PTCA restenosis.

16. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 11 wherein the NF-κB-associated disease is selected from the group consisting of a cancer metastasis, a cancer invasion, and cachexia.

17. (Withdrawn) A method of treating a NF-κB-dependent disease selected from the group consisting of immunological disorders, septic shock, transplant rejection, radiation damage, reperfusion injuries after ischemia, arteriosclerosis and neurodegenerative diseases, comprising administering to a mammal in need of such treatment an effective amount of an oligonucleotide decoy comprising one or more copies of a transcription factor binding site.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 17 wherein the nuclear factor-κB-dependent disease is an immunological disorder.

20. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 17 wherein the nuclear factor-κB-dependent disease is septic shock.

21. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 17 wherein the nuclear factor-κB-dependent disease is transplant rejection.

22. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 17 wherein the nuclear factor-κB-dependent disease is radiation damage.

23. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 17 wherein the nuclear factor-κB-dependent disease is reperfusion injury after ischemia.

24. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 17 wherein the nuclear factor-κB-dependent disease arteriosclerosis.

25. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 11 wherein the nuclear factor-κB-dependent disease is a neurodegenerative disease.

26. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 11 wherein the administering inhibits cell death and apoptosis in ischemic-reperfused myocardium.

27. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 11 wherein the administering inhibits apoptosis in ischemic-reperfused brain, thereby reducing neuronal cell death in stroke.

28. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 11 wherein the administering inhibits apoptosis in the failing heart, thereby reducing apoptosis and cell death in congestive heart failure and cardiomyopathy.

29. (Withdrawn) A therapeutic method comprising treating non-aortal procedural vascular trauma comprising administering to a mammal, subjected to the procedural vascular trauma, an effective protective amount of an oligonucleotide decoy, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof comprising one or more copies of a NF-kB binding site.

30. (Withdrawn) The transcription factor decoy of claim 2, wherein each domain comprises from about 14 to about 40 nucleotide base pairs.

31. (Withdrawn) The transcription factor decoy of claim 2, wherein each domain comprises from about 12 to about 25 nucleotide base pairs.

32. (Previously presented) The transcription factor decoy of claim 2, wherein the concatemerized double-stranded oligonucleotide molecule comprises at least 15 end-to-end repeated copies of a domain.

33. (Previously presented) The transcription factor decoy of claim 2, wherein the concatemerized double-stranded oligonucleotide molecule comprises at least 20 end-to-end repeated copies of a domain.